



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Learning Centre

Timetable

Postgraduate Research Program

26 October - 15 December 2020

Register online

<https://lc-enrol.sydney.edu.au/lc>

- All workshops will be held online via Zoom.
- Workshops are open to all enrolled University of Sydney students and are free of charge.
- **Learning Centre**, Room 722
Education Building, Manning Road.
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E learning.centre@sydney.edu.au

WORKSHOPS SPECIFICALLY FOR NEW POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS

• WELCOME TO THE LEARNING CENTRE • GETTING STARTED

Welcome to the Learning Centre

- Mon 16 November 4-5pm
- Mon 7 December 11am-12pm

This one hour workshop introduces students to the range of services and resources offered by the Learning Centre.

Getting Started: Overview of a Thesis

- Mon 23 November 4-6pm
- Mon 14 December 11am-1pm

This workshop covers overall organisation and general issues of reader/writer communication.

Getting Started: Thesis Proposal

- Mon 26 October 11am-1pm
- Mon 30 November 4-6pm
- Tue 15 December 11am-1pm

This workshop provides an overview of the proposal with particular emphasis on the introductory stage and the expression of aims, research questions and hypotheses.

WORKSHOP PROGRAM FOR ALL POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS

Preparing for Postgraduate Study - Research

- Mon 26 October 10am-12pm
- Fri 6 November 10am-12pm

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students (early stages). Covers preliminary stages of independent research; planning, research approaches and methodologies, characteristics of quality research, establishing and managing a bibliography.

Working with Your Supervisor

- Mon 26 October 1-3pm
- Mon 2 November 10am-12pm

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Examines supervisory relationship and provides strategies to communicate effectively and appropriately with your supervisor.

Writing a Literature Review

- Tue 27 October 10am-12pm
- Thur 5 November 10am-12pm
- Thur 26 November 10am-12pm

Target group: doctoral and masters by research students. Required: To attend this workshop you MUST have completed the Learning Centre's online OLE 'Writing a Literature Review' as this 3 hour face to face workshop builds on ideas presented in the OLE. The aim of this workshop is to clarify, and apply to your writing, strategies for structuring your review, and synthesising and evaluating the literature. Bring: any questions you have arising from the OLE, a draft outline of your literature review chapter/s or sections, preferably a draft of a section of your literature review and 5 research articles.

To locate the OLE component log into Canvas with your UniKey and password:
<https://canvas.sydney.edu.au/>

Then follow the links in this order:

- > OLE (on the left hand side bar)
- > Enrol in Units
- > Foundational and Advanced Communication Skills
- > Writing a Literature Review

Writing a Thesis with Publications

- Wed 28 October 1-3pm
- Mon 2 November 2-4pm
- Tue 24 November 11am-1pm

Target group: doctoral students. This workshop is based on a study of recent successful theses and will cover: how to write an engaging introduction and a forceful conclusion, avoid duplication in the several literature reviews required, and develop a final overarching argument.

Writing a Journal Article in the Sciences

- Fri 30 October 10am-12pm

Target group: postgraduate research students writing up research for publication. Bring: draft of an article you are working on AND a relevant journal article. Introduction to the structure and language of scientific journal articles.

The Process of Getting a Journal Article Published

- Fri 30 October 2-5pm
- Fri 27 November 10am-1pm

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: style guides of relevant journals and a relevant journal article. Covers issues to do with getting published, such as choosing the journal, authorship, and reviewers feedback.

Overview of a Thesis

- Wed 28 Oct 10am-12pm
- Target group: postgraduate research students.* Bring: contents page/thesis outline and draft of any part of thesis. Covers overall organisation and general issues of reader/writer communication.

Preparing a Thesis Proposal

- Tue 27 October 1-3pm
- Thur 19 November 2-4pm

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: sample proposal from your department (if available). Provides an overview of the proposal with particular emphasis on the introductory stage and the expression of aims, research questions and hypotheses.

Writing up Research in the Sciences

- Thur 29 October 10am-1pm

Target group: postgraduate research students (in the process of writing up). Bring: draft of middle section of thesis. Focuses on the structure and language of the middle section of a thesis in the sciences. (Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion).

Writing a Thesis in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Introductions, Conclusions and Abstracts

- Wed 4 November 10am-1pm

Target group: postgraduate research students (in the final stages of writing up). Bring: draft introduction, conclusion (and abstract, if possible). Provides an in-depth study of these sections of a thesis, and includes an overview of staging and the analysis of examples.

Writing a Thesis in the Sciences and Social Sciences: Introductions, Conclusions and Abstracts

- Mon 9 November 10am-1pm

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students (in the final stages of writing up). Bring: draft introduction, conclusion (and abstract, if possible). Provides an in-depth study of these sections of a thesis, and includes an overview of staging and the analysis of examples.

Writing Bootcamp for HDR Students (6 hours)

- Mon 16 November 10am-1pm and 2-5pm
- Saturday 28 November 10am-1pm and 2-5pm

The bootcamp involves you working on your thesis writing. You might be writing the literature review or drafting a section of your thesis or fine tuning an almost complete section. Learning Centre academics will be on hand to respond to your writing questions BUT there will be no formal teaching presentations at the bootcamp.

Writing a Critical Review of a Journal Article

- Thur 5 November 1-3pm

Target group: English speaking background postgraduate students. Bring (if possible): the text to be critically reviewed. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a critical review of a journal article. Includes examples, language features, writing practice.

Writing in an Academic Style

- Wed 4 November 2-4pm

Target group: English speaking background postgraduate students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, e.g. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Writing up a Systematic Review

• Tue 10 November 10am-1pm
Target group: postgraduate research students. Bring: published systemic review from own field. This workshop focuses on the writing-up, NOT the carrying-out, of a systematic review, i.e. on the content elements of, and staging within, the various review sections, and on relevant expression issues, e.g. evaluative language.

Critical Reading of a Research Article

• Mon 23 November 1-3pm
Target group: postgraduate students. Bring: a journal article from your area of study. Covers interpreting and asking critical questions about a text and its subject matter.

Writing a Critical Review on a Topic Area

• Tue 3 November 10am-1pm
Target group: English speaking background postgraduate students. Bring (if possible): the text to be critically reviewed. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a more complex critical review of a debate, methodology, theory, topic area, etc. Includes examples, language features, writing practice.

Foundations of Grammar (6 hours)

• Tue 24, Wed 25 and Thur 26 November 2-4pm
Target group: all students. This course looks at four basic areas of English grammar (sentence structure, verb groups, verb tenses and noun groups) from the point of view of the academic reader and writer. It will build your understanding of grammatical terminology and description.

Functional Grammar for Academic Writing

• Mon 30 November, Tue 1 and Wed 2 December 10am-12pm
Target group: all students. Builds on "Foundations of Grammar" and looks at the resources of the English clause for expressing meaning through grammatical choices. Suitable for students who have completed "Foundations of Grammar" or for those who have a sound knowledge of the terminology and description of English grammar.

Proof Reading and Editing Your Own Work

• Tue 10 November 2-4pm
• Thur 12 November 10am-12pm
• Wed 18 November 2-4pm
• Fri 4 December 10am-12pm
Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on strategies for proof reading and editing at both paragraph and sentence level. Students will identify and correct errors in their own writing.

W.E.L.L.

Workshop for English Language & Learning for non English speaking background students

Pronunciation Skills

non English speaking background students
• Mon 9, Wed 11, Thur 12 and Fri 13 Nov 1-4pm
Target group: all students. Bring: if possible, your own audio recording device, e.g. phone, MP3, digital recorder. Provides practise in identifying and correcting common pronunciation problems in English. Develops methods for improving speaking and pronunciation.

Grammar Clinic for Editing and Proofreading

non English speaking background students
• Mon 16, Tue 17, Wed 18 and Thur 19 November 10am-12pm
Target group: non English speaking background postgraduate students. Bring: Draft of current writing. Practises identifying and correcting common grammatical errors using mixed discipline peer groups.

Vocabulary for Describing Data

non English speaking background students
• Mon 30 November, Tue 1, Wed 2 and Thur 3 December 12-2pm
Target group: non English speaking background postgraduate students who need to write up research data. Bring: article from field &/or draft data description from your writing. Students will study concordance examples of the grammar and vocabulary of data commentaries as the basis for writing practice.

Clearer Writing

non English speaking background students
• Mon 16 and Tue 17 November 2-4pm
Target group: non English speaking background students. Bring: draft of current writing. Aims to make explicit the linking structures in English which make writing clear and logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Detailed Reading for Academic Writing

non English speaking background students
• Fri 20 November 10am-1pm
Target group: non English speaking background students. Focuses on understanding academic texts packed with complex content and how this information needs to be unpacked in order to write successfully and avoid plagiarism.

Writing in an Academic Style

non English speaking background students
• Mon 23 November 10am-12pm
Target group: non English speaking background students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, e.g. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Writing a Critical Review on a Topic Area

non English speaking background students
• Wed 25 November 10am-1pm
Target group: non English speaking background students. Bring (if possible): the text to be critically reviewed. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a more complex critical review of a debate, methodology, theory, topic area, etc. Includes examples, language features & writing practice.

Writing a Critical Review of a Journal Article

• Thur 27 November 2-5pm
Target group: non English speaking background postgraduates. Bring (if possible): the text to be critically reviewed. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a critical review of a journal article. Includes examples, language features and writing practice.

WORKSHOP PATHWAY FOR MASTERS BY RESEARCH AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS

END OF CANDIDATURE

FINAL DRAFTING: INTRODUCTIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND ABSTRACTS
bring your working drafts

WRITING UP RESEARCH IN THE SCIENCES / HUMANITIES / SOCIAL SCIENCES
WRITING A THESIS WITH PUBLICATIONS
bring a draft of part of the middle section of your thesis

USEFUL WORKSHOPS as you go through your candidature might be:

- The Process of Getting a Journal Article Published
- Writing a Journal Article
- Working with your Thesis Supervisor
- Procrastination and Managing Time
- Functional Grammar for Academic Writing
- Grammar Clinic for Editing and Proofreading
- Vocabulary Development for Data Description
- Writing in an Academic Style
- Clearer Writing
- Postgraduate Oral Presentation

If a big literature review is expected in your proposal, you may have to do this workshop twice!

OVERVIEW OF A THESIS
bring a draft of your contents page/thesis outline and draft of any part of your thesis

WRITING A LITERATURE REVIEW
bring the review from your proposal and/or a draft of a section of your review (this workshop is also available online as an OLE)
WRITING UP A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
bring the review from your proposal and/or a draft of any part of your thesis

PREPARING A THESIS PROPOSAL
bring a draft of any part of your thesis

BEGINNING OF CANDIDATURE

Workshops you can do before you actually begin your candidature, which will help you to prepare for your research writing:

- Preparing for Postgraduate Study Research
- Preparing a Thesis Proposal
- Critical Reading of a Research Article
- Writing a Critical Review on a Topic Area